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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding EN-RAGE peptide.

5-16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) An antibody immunoreactive with an epitope comprising a unique sequence of EN-RAGE..

18. (Original) A ribozyme which is capable of specifically cleaving EN-RAGE mRNA in a cell.

19. (Original) A transgenic nonhuman mammal whose germ or somatic cells contain a nucleic acid molecule which encodes EN-RAGE peptide or a biologically active variant thereof, introduced into the mammal, or an ancestor thereof, at an embryonic stage.

20-22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) A transgenic nonhuman mammal whose germ or somatic cells have been transfected with a suitable vector with an appropriate sequence designed to reduce expression levels of EN-RAGE peptide below the expression levels of that of a

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native mammal.

24-69. (Canceled)